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## EASTERN

F.O. 371

1947

PALESTINE

FILE No. 50

CLOSED UNTIL 1978

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PALESTINE

E 2 JAN 1947

Registry \$50/50/31

FROM
40. Minute

No. W Gaman

Dated

Received 31. Dec 1946
in Registry 31. Dec 1946

French Heaching Extablishments in Palestine.

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t. 40. Beter (£ 11483/8 960/31, The tour suff
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DE SION" asked for consideration of alker

Last Paper.

(11483/8960/31)

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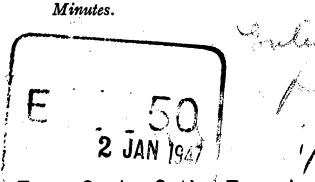
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(Index.)

Next Paper.

1292

32003 F.O.P



Monsieur Francfort of the French Embassy left with me yesterday the attached piece of paper with reference to Sir O. Sargent's letter to the French Ambassador in E 11483/8960/31. Monsieur Francfort said that the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs were grateful for the information about the impending evacuation of the school belonging to the Pères de Sion and that they would also be grateful if we would take up with the Colonial Office the possibility of the evacuation of the buildings belonging to other French religious institutions etc., which were also occupied by the Army, the names of which appear on the attached piece of paper.

> Deckuhr Manuary, 1944.

Ecole au Reis de Betharam à Nazarethin 1047

- 1) Hotellerie Notre Dame de France qui compte 220 chambres.
- 2) Maison Saint-Pierre en Gallicante.
- 3) Etablissement des Pères Maristes à Béthanie.
- 4) Orphelinatt de Jésus-Adolescent à Nazareth.
- 5) Maison des Pères Blancs pension Ain-Karim.
- 6) Une partie de L'Ecole des Carmes de Saint Joseph à Caiffa.

61837

No. E 50/50/31 Dear Higham, Please refer to our recent Draft. follow 15 conspondence, ending with your letter Mr. Higham, no. 76395/3/46 og November 25th. C.O. on the subject of French schools in Polistin nyusitioned of the military authorities. H13. 29 We have now received from the Frank Embassy a further list of hildings, belonging to Franch nligious institutions, which an said to be occupied of the Army. I enclose a copy of the list, and 9 should be glad if you would oftain from grusalem the latest

dtfan

ours Sincerely Sel) P. Gaman

OUT FILE FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

24th January, 1947.

(E.50/50/31).

Confidential.

Dear Higham,

Please refer to our recent correspondence, ending with your letter No.76395/3/46 of the S5th Fovember, on the subject of French schools in Palestine requisitioned by the military authorities.

we have now received from the French Embassy a further list of buildings, belonging to French religious institutions, which are said to be occupied by the Army.

I enclose a copy of the list, and I should be glad if you would obtain from Jerusalem the latest information in respect of each building.

Yours Sincerely

(Sed.) (P.Garran).

...J.D. Higham, Esq., Colonial Office.

Reference: TO 37

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remis an F.G. 20.12. 66

Hotellerie Notre Dame de France qui compte 1) Hotelle: 220 chambres.

- Maison Saint-Pierre en Gallicante. 2)
- Etablissement des Pères Maristes à Béthanie. 3)
- Orphelinat de Jésus-Adolescent à Nazareth. 4)
- Maison des Pères Blancs pension Ain-Karim. 5)
- Une partie de l'Ecole des Carmes de Saint-Jeseph à Caiffa. 6)

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3 29 6	32003 <b>F.O.P</b>	12 may rad 2/5

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Reference:

FO 371

61837

e Secretary of State for the Colonies. To the Officer Administering the Government of PALESTINE. Pebruary, 1947 1487/896p/81. (0. Saving. Your telegram No. 1936 of 20th November, 1946. French schools in Palestine requisitioned by the military authorities, I enclose a further list, received from the French Embassy, of buildings, belonging THE PUBLIC RECORD to French religious institutions, which are said to be occupied by the Army. I should be glad if you would furnish me in due course with the latest information in respect of each building. OFFICE, SECER. (mark LON DON ာ မသ 75 395/3/47 Ockenial Office Din 8 2 47 Reference 6.60/50/3

Saving.

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To the Officer Administering the Government of Date 1947.

Date 50 50 3/ No. 292 Saving.

My savingram No.110. French Schools in Palestine requisitioned by military authorities.

I should be grateful if you would furnish the desired information as soon as possible.

SECER.

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Polonial Office.

Reformine (E 50/50/31)

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Registry
No. E 1292/50/31 Top Secret. Secret. Confidential. Aestricted. Open. MARGIN. bolomial Office **THIS** WRITTEN IN **B**E 5 NOTHING

my letter institutions in Palestine requisitioned by the military authorities? I should be glad if you would do hay zuch

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON 31 337

## **OUT FILE**

12

FOREIGN OFFICE, 3.W.1.

5th Hay, 1947

(E 1292/50/31) CONVIDENTIAL.

Dear Higham,

May I refer you to my letter (E 50/50/31) of the 24th January on the subject of French schools and religious institutions in Palestine requisitioned by the military authorities?

I should be glad if you would let me know whether you have yet received any information from Jerusalem about this subject, as we owe the French Embassy a reply.

yours succeely,

(Sqa.) (P.Gerran)

J.D.Higham, Maq., Colonial Office.

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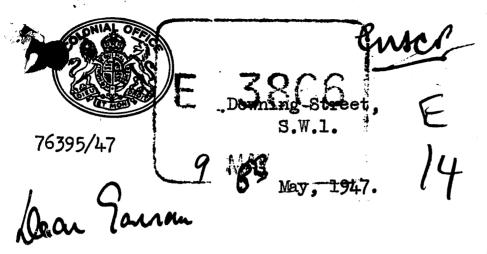
E 3866 PALESTINE French tracking Establish ment in Palesting. Registry | E 3866/10/31 Report \$0 (tter (50/50/31) of Jan 24, **FROM** transmit copy of Polletins til 435 Saving Frank which it reems there is lette prespect of most of buildings being reliased under present circumstances. Colonal oppie 46395/44 Dated Lul Garren Received in Registry 8, May 1947 This is the onswer to a guery raised newbally by Last Paper. m. Transfort with Mr. Junde in December (1946) see 1297. minute ( in E 50 attached) I submit draft to M. Franket References. (Print.) (How disposed of.) Framfort

CS. BCABLE)

(Action completed.) Next Paper.

4819

32003 F.O.P



Please refer to your letter to Higham (E.50/50/31) of 24th January on the subject of French schools in Palestine.

I enclose herewith for your information a copy of the High Commissioner's reply to our enquiry. Unfortunately it seems that there is little prospect of most of the buildings being released in the present circumstances. We will let you know as soon as possible if the Carmelite School in Haifa can in fact be returned to its owners.

P.S. You recent letter, reminiment.

The subject of the first some in .

Thape that this reply will need the case.

Reference:

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Carlos and and and been been at all

From the High Commissioner for Palestine and the modification of the second sec

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies

Date: 21.4.47.

No. 435 Saving

Your telegram No. 110 Saving of the 7th of February, 1947.

French Schools in Palestine requisitioned by the military authorities.

2. I transmit hereunder information regarding the following institutions:-

- i. Ecole du Pere de Betharam, Nazareth: still occupied by Polish troops.
  - ii. Hotellerie Notre Dame de France: accommodates British troops.
  - iii. Maison Saint-Pierre en Gallicante: occupied by essential civilian services.
  - iv. Establissement des Peres Maristes Bethany: not known.
  - v. Orphelinat de Jesus-Adolescent, Nazareth: 
    occupied by Polish troops.
  - vi. Maison des Peres Blanc pension, Ain Karim: this house does not appear to be an educational institution, and is not requisitioned.
  - vii. Ecole des Carmes de Saint Joseph, Haifa: negotiations are proceeding by which the school may be returned to its owners.

15

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It is regretted that the present situation should necessitate the occupation by the military forces of the above-named institutions, and every attempt will be made when an opportunity occurs to return them to their original owners.

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Registry
No. E 3866/50/31

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Monsieur Pierre Francfort, French Embassy, London.

from Mr. Garran OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE,

21 May, 1947.

You will remember that you left with me on 30th December a list of French religious institutions and teaching establishments in Palestine, the premises of which were understood to have been requisitioned by the Military authorities. You subsequently referred to this matter in conversation with me on two other occasions.

As I told you, we referred this matter to the Colonial Office with a request that they should examine the position with the local Palestine authorities. A report has now been received from the High Commissioner for Palestine, which gives the following information:-

- 1. Ecole des Peres Betharam Nazareth : still occupied by Polish troops.
- 2. Hotellerie Notre Dame de Sainte; accommodating British troops;
- 3. Maison Saint-Pierre en Gallicante: occupied by essential civilian services.
- 4. Etablissement des Pères Maristes à Béthanie: this building is not known to the Palestine administration under this name.
- 5.Orphelinat de Jésus-Adolescent à Nazareth: still occupied by Polish troops.
- 6. Maison des Pères Blancs Pension Ain-Karim: this building is not requisitioned.
- 7. Ecole des Carmes de Saint Joseph à Caiffa: negotiations are proceeding

for/

for the return of this school to its owners.

that owing to the present abnormal situation yet in Palestine it is not/possible to return to their owners those buildings which are still occupied by the military forces and essential services. They give an assurance however that every effort will be made to return them to their owners as soon as it is possible to do so.

Beoles des Carines
Ole Saint Voseph
at Haifa

19/5

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

21st May, 1947.

No. E 3866/50/31

19

\$ 1837 1837

My dear Pierre,

You will remember that you left with me on 30th December a list of French religious institutions and teaching establishments in Riestine, the premises of which were understood to have been requisitioned by the Military authorities. You subsequently referred to this matter in conversation with me on two other occasions.

As I told you, we referred this matter to the Colonial Office with a request that they should examine the position with the local Palestine authorities. A report has now been received from the High Commissioner for Palestine, which gives the following information:-

- 1. Ecole des Pères de Betharam à Nazareth : still occupied by Polish troops.
- 2. Hotellerie Notre Dame de France; accommodating British troops.
- 3. Maison Saint-Pierre en Gallicante : occupied by essential civilian services.
- 4. Etablissement des Pères Maristes à Béthanie : this building is not known to the Palestine administration under this name.
- 5. Orphelimat de Jésus-Adolescent à Nazareth : still occupied by Polish troops.
- 6. Maison des Pères Blancs Pension Ain-Karim: this building is not requisitioned.
- 7. Ecole des Carmes de Saint Joseph à Caiffa : negotiations are proceeding for the return of this school to its owners.

The/

30.

The Palestine Administration much regret that owing to the present adnormal situation in Palestine it is not yet possible to return to their owners those buildings still occupied by the military forces and essential services apart from the Ecoles des Carmes de Saint Joseph at Haifa. They give an assurance however that every effort will be made to return them to their owners as soon as it is possible to do so.

> Yours very Sincerely, (Sqd.) Peter Ganan. (P. Garran)

1947

Registry \ EU\$19/50/31

FROM 41 Abaragli

Dated & Las . O. Largent

Received in Registry 2 / Sept 1947.

PALESTINE

French Leaching Establishment in Polisters. Point out dot at bast 3 of the 8 requisitions touch Lechools in Palatial an occupied by

French Embary, Polis who could be regularated to Polard as England. Requests that the questions

I release of school may be reconsidered.

Last Paper. 3866 -

References.

I submit chapt to c.o. (JE.CABLE)

(Print.)

I think this might perhaps now be taken up on a higher level with the co. Amended drafts Sub mutted

Oft. Wi abayighi French Culturey from lo D. Harry

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| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Reference: FO 371 | 61837

Le 2 juin 1947.

E 4819

The Si bima

A diverses reprises, l'Ambassade de France est intervenue auprès du Foreign Office pour demander que soient évacués les établissements scolaires français de Palestine occupés par les troupes britanniques.

Le Foreign Office a répondu à ces différentes démarches en rapportant, en particulier par sa lettre E.3866/50/31 du 21 mai, que, dans les circonstances actuelles, les autorités militaires ne pouvaient évacuer les locaux qu'elles occupaient.

Cependant, le Gouvernement français attache le plus grand prix à ce qu'un certain nombre de ces établissements puissent reprendre leur activité. Il est parfaitement conscient

Sir Orme G. Sargent,

K.C.B., K.C.M.G.,

Sous-Secrétaire d'Etat permanent.

OFFICE,

19、福宁公司进行运行

des difficultés que rencontrent les autorités militaires britanniques pour le logement des troupes qu'elles entre-tiennent pour assurer la charge du mandat britannique sur la Palestine. Toutefois, les raisons qui ont été données pour le maintien de l'occupation de certains établissements ne paraissent pas justifiées par des considérations d'ordre militaire.

Sur les huit établissements actuellement réquisitionnés, loués ou occupés à fin de bail, trois au moins :
la maison des Pères de Betharam à Nazareth, l'orphelinat de
Jésus adolescent à Nazareth, une partie de l'école St-Pierre
de Sion à Jérusalem, ne sont pas occupés par des forces militaires britanniques mais par des éléments polonais qui ne font
pas partie de ces forces militaires et n'assurent aucun service d'ordre militaire ou de police; la plupart seraient
d'ailleurs des femmes. Ces éléments seraient également en
instance de rapatriement soit en Pologne, soit en Angleterre.

Dans ces conditions, je serais très heureux que vous puissiez intérvenir amprès du Colonial Office pour que les établissements occupés soient évacués aussi rapidement que possible et que les autorités militaires considèrent les

Reference: 61837

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établissements français de Palestine nom du seul point de vue de l'accommodation de personnels divers, mais sous l'angle de l'intérêt que porte le Gouvernement français à la reprise de leur activité culturelle.

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Delife letter The Fruith Cembassador z Sin O. January Copy Sis T. Loyd JB trune 11 Westin Dur

14/8. .

Registry No. E 48/9/50/31 OUT FILE

17 June 25

I have written to the Permanent under - Secretary at the Colonial Office Communicating the Contents of you were of time 2nd about the continued occupation by the military anthorities of certain Frenchi Schools in Palestine, and I have asked In T. Koyd to take the matter up again with the Stigh Commissimer.

(13535) Wt. 43686-114 200m 2/47 G.S.SI

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understand that the inprovince difficulties under which the Crost. 1) Palestrie are at present working weke it almost impossible to separate any patialar aspect of the general acute accommodation problem for special treatment but I have asked that Consideration le given to the release of some at least of these schools at an early date.

> M 14/41

Reference: 6183

OUT FILE

17th June, 1947.

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4819/50/81.

COMPLUMPITAL.

my dear ambassador

I have written to the Permanent Under-Secretary at the Colonial Office communicating the contents of your letter to Sargent of the End June about the continued occupation by the military authorities of certain French schools in Palestine, and I have asked Sir Thomas Lloyd to take the matter up with the High Commissioner.

I am sure you will understand that the great difficulties under which the Government of Palestine are at present working make it almost impossible to separate any particular aspect of the general acute accommodation problem for special treatment but I have asked that consideration be given to the release of some at least of these schools at an early date.

Yours very sincerely (syd) Sir O. Harvey

His Excellency

Monoiour Rond Massigli, K.B.E.,

Fronch Ambassy,

3, Carlton Gardons,

8,7,1,

FO 371 / 5183

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDO

Registry 'No.

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Draft.

Sir Thomas Lloyd, Colonial Office.

From:

Sir Ø<del>rmo Sargent</del>

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My 12/b

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OUT TILE

17 June

the French Ambassador has made a number of Occupation by me mustage methodis representations to me about the position of entre la compania de la compania del compania del compania de la compania del compania de la compania de la compania del compania de la compania de la compania de la compania de la compania del compan the French teaching establishments in Contract Distribution Ship The Palestine. Our Eastern Department have had some correspondence on the subject with the competent department of the Colonial Office, and the latest information which we were able to pass on to the French Ambassador was contained in a letter from The Market Burn Burn Burn Fitzgerald to Garran, No.76395/47 of May 6th, enclosing a Saving telegram from the 10.00 · 10.00 · 2.60 · 整点 · 10 · 图2.00 · 图2.0 High Commissioner giving the present THE THE STATE OF STATE AND AND AND position.

Sent all amendade i

Massigli has now returned to the charge with me in a letter, of which I You will see that he argues attach a copy. that, while the French Government realise the difficulty of finding accommodation for British troops in Palestine, nevertheless the reasons given for the continued occupation of certain of these establishments He points are not at present compelling. out that of the eight establishments now requisitioned, three at least are not occupied by British forces but by Polish men and women in the process of being repatriated or sent to the United Kingdom. These are the Maison des Pères de Betharam at Nazareth, l'Orphelinat de Jésus Adolescent at Nazareth and a portion of Ecole St.-Pierre de Sion at Jerusalem.

Frenck/

237

for the early release of these schools.

the matter up with you, but that I am sure he will appreciate our special difficulties in Palestine at the present moment.

Meanwhile I should be grateful if you could consult the High Commissioner once more and find out whether there is really and prospect of freeing some at least of these schools.

The French are undoubtedly still tender about their loss of influence and prestige in this part of the world arising from their Levant States demarche, and it is undoubtedly galling to them to feel that they are being prevented from picking up again their longestablished educational work in Palestine.

18 hales with the services to remove as far as formal to the control of the contr

THING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

withdrawal from the

OUTFILE

17th June. 19

(ECS19/50/31) CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Lloyd

3

you probably know that the French Ambassador has made a number of representations to me about the occupation by our military authorities of certain French teaching establishments in Palestine. Our Eastern Department have had some correspondence on the subject with the competent department of the Colonial Office, and the latest information which we were able to pass on to the French Embassy was contained in a letter from Fitzgerald to Garran, No. 76395/47 of the 6th May, enclosing a Saving telegram from the High Commissioner giving the present position.

Massigli has now returned to the charge in a letter You will see that to Bargent of which I attach a copy. he argues that, while the French Government realise the difficulty of finding accommodation for British troops in Palestine, nevertheless the reasons given for the continued occupation of certain of these establishments are not at present compelling. He points out that of the eight establishments now requisitioned, three at least are not occupied by British forces but by Polish men and women in the process of being repatriated or sent to the United Kingdom. These are the Maison des Pères de Betharam at Nazareth, the Orphelinat de Jésus Adolescent at Nazareth and a portion of the Ecole Saint Pierre de Sion at Jerusalem. The French Government are therefore pressing for the early release of these schools.

I will tell Massigli that I am taking the matter up with you, but that he will appreciate our special difficulties in Palestine at the present moment.

/ Meanwhile

Sir Thomas Lloyd, K.C.M.G., Colonial Office.

RECORD ೦೦ ت

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Heanwhile I should be greteful if you could consult the High Commissioner once more and find out whether there is really no prospect of freeing some at least of these The French are undoubtedly still tender about their loss of influence and prestige in this part of the world arising from their withdrawal from the Levant States, and it is galling to them to feel that they are being prevented from picking up again their long-established work in Palestine.

My Secretary of State is most anxious to remove as far as possible all irritants between us and the French in the Middle Bast and I know he would be grateful if special efforts could be made to help the French over this matter.

Yours sincerely (sgd) Sir O. Harvey

1947
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## E

E 5808

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PALESTINE

Registry E 5 808/50/31

FROM

M. Franchow

No. Frank Subaffe

Dated L. M. Paryan

Received in Registry

1 1 Join C

French Feaching Establishments in Palestins.

Report Correspondence (E4819/50/81) Leggests
clinerimination, as all requisitioned relocals
in Palestino one French with the exception
of Four Thise Station, and one Teaush.

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(Print.)

Oft. Irefford Letth

(eve)

July 8

(Minutes.)

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Next Paper.

E 6847

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE A LONDRES

Le 27 juin 1947.

Che and,

A l'appui de la lettre No. 289 du 2 juin de M. Massigli à Sir Orme Sargent qui a bien voulu y répondre par lettre No. E. 4819/50/31, au sujet de l'occupation des établissements scolaires français en Palestine, je crois utile de vous signaler que les établissements français scolaires paraissent seuls avoir été réquisitionnés, à l'exception des établissements italiens qui sont :

- 1. Ecole des Salésiens italiens Saint-Paul, Jérusalem (armée),
- 2. Ecole des Franciscaines d'Egypte (ordre italien), à Jérusalem (tribunal militaire),
- 3. Ecoles des Carmélites italiennes à Caiffa, propriété des Pères Carmélites (police).

et de ce qui paraît être une institution juive : l'école de jeunes filles "Mizrachi" à Rohavia, Jérusalem.

P. Garan, Esq., Foreign Office. 61837

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Cette situation aboutit en fait à une discrimination dont souffrent les établissements français.

J'espère que les indications qui précèdent apporteront un argument supplémentaire aux démarches que vous avez bien voulu faire auprès des autorités militaires pour obtenir l'évacuation des établissements français./.

Incemment à vous.

61837

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OUT FILE Top Secret. Confidential. Restricted. Ky dear Trefford Brith, You will remember that Harvey wrote to Hayd on from <del>Sir Herila</del> Butila the 17th June (our reference in E 4819/50/31) about / Frank Kearling establishments which K. P. Gaman. an at present requisitioned of the military authorities in Palestine, and that he 143.3) enclosed a copy of a letter from the French Ambassader. The Emberry have now

subject, suggesting that his sympathy is king shown to Franch establishments than to those of other maternalities.

I enclose a copy of this letter, in order that you may consider it together with the Ambassadois previous representations.

4/2

Cours sincerely

( Sqd.) P. Janan

COTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

2402

OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.

8th July, 1947.

(3 5808/50/31)

My dear Trafford Smith,

You will remember that
Harvey wrote to Lloyd on the
17th June (our reference is
E 4819/50/31) about certain
French teaching establishments
which are at present
requisitioned by the military
authorities in Palestine, and that
he enclosed a copy of a letter
from the French Ambassador.

The Embassy have now written to us again on this subject, suggesting that less sympath is being shown to French establishments than to those of other nationalities. I enclose a copy of this letter, in order that you may consider it together with the Ambassador's previous representations.

Yours sincerely

T. Smith Esq., P. Garran)
Colonial Office.

Reference: 37

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PALFTINE

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References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

from Mr. Baith.

French Educational Establishments in Palistine.

Ref F.O Reden E48:9/50/31 0/17/6.

Knoloses copy of let to Paleolite
835 San of 24/7 regarding requisitioning
of French educational establishments
in Paleotine

(Minutes.

I have the C.O. an hard passed, but I think that, in view of Si O. Harveys letter in E 48,9, they might have waited less than fire weeks before taking action.

Western Dept. In 185

HBuly 3/8

Letter to C.O.

143. 19

(Action completed.)

(Index)

Next Paper.

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Wt. 24772/717 17855 10/38 F.O.P.





76395/3/47 E 68.

Harrey JUL :947

Colonial Office, Downing Street, S.W.1.

25 July, 1947

39 (

Thank you for your letter E.4819/50/31 of the 17th June about the French educational establishments which are under requisition in Palestine. I am sorry that, owing to extreme pressure in the M.E. Department here, we have been so long in replying.

We have taken the matter up with the High Commissioner again in a saving telegram of which I enclose a copy. We are reluctant to press the High Commissioner too hard on this issue, as accommodation difficulties in Palestine are very acute owing to the size of the present garrison and the fact that buildings for requisition often have to be selected with a view to their inclusion within security zones and their potentiality for defence. The Polish refugees in Palestine present a special problem of some magnitude and we are anxious to relieve the High Commissioner of responsibility for their accommodation as soon as possible. You are. no doubt aware, however, of the difficulties with which we are faced in moving to the United Kingdom from the various parts of the Empire where they now are those Poles for whose resettlement we have accepted responsibility. I hope, nevertheless, that the High Commissioner's reply to our saving telegram will enable us to offer some satisfaction to the French Ambassador.

Your miceny.

7.1.K. 14.d

SIR OLIVER HARVEY, K.C.M.G.

Reference:

76395/3/47

# PRIORITY

# SAVING

To the High Commissioner for PALESTINE.

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 24th July, 1947.

No: 838 Confidential Saving

Your telegram No.435 Saving.

Requisitioned French Schools in Palestine.

Information in your saving telegram under reference has been conveyed to French Ambassador who has expressed himself as dissatisfied that these institutions should still remain under requisition. In a communication to the Foreign Office he has commented adversely on the fact that three of the institutions in question are used to house Poles, a large proportion of whom are women. He contends that the reasons advanced by us for continued requisition, namely the necessity of housing military forces in Palestine, cannot be taken to apply to these Poles who do not form part of the military or police forces. The establishments to which he makes particular reference are:

- (a) Ecole des Peres de Betharam at Mazareth;
- b) Orphanage of Jesus Adolescent at Wazereth;
- (c) One wing of the school of St.Pierre de
- 2. Your telegram No.1936 indicated that (c) above might be evacuated in January 1947. Grateful to know if this has proved possible and also if there is any immediate prospect of your being able to arrange for the Poles in question to be housed in accommodation other than French aducational institutions. I fully realize that delay in arranging for the disposal of these Poles is a great embarrassment to you, and I am afraid that I can hold out no hopes of their early removal. It is intended that they will be ultimately received in the United Kingdom and the accommodation situation here, coupled with the shortage of shipping and the necessity arising from the end of British rule in India to grant priority to the evacuation of Poles from that country, makes it difficult to fix a date for their removal.
- The French Ambassador has also suggested that there is a degree of discrimination against French teaching establishments in that they appear to be the only institutions of this character which have been requisitioned with the exception of 3 Italian schools, namely,
  - (a) Salesian school of Saint Paul, Jerusalem.
  - (b) Egyptien Franciscans school, Jeruselem,
  - (e) Carmelites' school at Haifa.

Grateful for material to answer this charge. I en aver, for instance, that a religious building leased as a Moslem school in Heife has through necessity been

/occupied

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occupied as police billets. The Foreign Secretary is anxious to remove as far as possible all irritants between His Majesty's Government and the French in the Middle East and he would be grateful if special efforts could be made to help the French in the matter of their educational establishments in Palestine about which they are particularly sensitive. Grateful therefore if you would consider if anything further can be done to release some of the buildings in question.

SECER

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Reference: 371 31837

Registry No. E. 6847/50/31.

Top Secret. Confidential. Restricted.

Draft. W. A. Y. Mathieson, Esq., The Colonial Office, LONDON, S. W. 1.

FROM: Mr Beith. OUTFILE

FOREIGN OFFICE,

/\(\psi^{\text{August}}, \text{1947.}\)

Dear Mathieson,

Will you please refer to the correspondence about French educational establishments in Palestine, ending with Lloyd's letter to Harvey No. 76395/3/47 of July 25th.

- The Counsellor of the French Embassy recently rang me up to say that, according to their information, the Orphelinat de Jésus Adolescent at Nazareth was being evacuated by the Poles who had been occupying it. The French Government were very grateful for this development which took place as the result of their Embassy's repeated representations; but they were distressed to hear that it was proposed to replace the Poles by British troops. The Counsellor hoped that this was only a rumour and that in fact the Orphanage would now be restored to the French as a result of the removal of the Poles.
- As there was some delay in taking this matter up with the High Commissioner in your Saving telegram No. 838 of 24th July, may I ask you to send an urgent telegram asking what the present position of this French establishment is so that we may reply to the French Embassy's enquiry ?

D Angs

Yours sincerely

(Sqd.) John Beith (J. G. S. Beith)

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PORBION STRICK, S.W.1.

4

14th August, 1947.

(B.6347/50/31)

Dear Mathieson.

will you please refer to the correspondence about French educational establishments in Palestine, ending with Lloyd's letter to Hervey No. 76395/5/47 of July 25th.

- recently rang me up to say that, according to their information, the Orphelinat de Jesus Adolescent at Nazareth was being evacuated by the Poles who had been occupying it. The French Covernment were very grateful for this development which they took to be the result of their Enbassy's repeated representations; but they were distressed to hear that it was proposed to replace the Poles by British troops. The Counsellor hoped that this was only a remour and that in fact the Orphemage would now be restored to the French as a result of the removal of the Poles.
- atter up with the High Commissioner in your Saving telegram No. 838 of the 24th July, may I ask you to send an urgent telegram asking what the present position of this French establishment is so that we may reply to the French Embassy's latest enquiry.

Yours sincerely

(Sad.) John Beith

(J.G.S.Beith)

W.A.C.Mathieson, Baq., Colonial Office. 6 Reference:

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1947

E 8527

PALESTINE

Registry E852750/31 Number

FROMM. Francfort (French Embassy) to Mr Garran No. 483

> 11.9.47. Dated Received 15.9.47. in Registry

French Teaching Establishments in Palestine Refers to Sir Oliver Harvey's letter of 17th June (E4819/50/31). On the understanding that the evacuation of the Orphanage would be completed in time for it to be re-opened in October, all preparations have been made for this to take place.
Requests that in view of this the Foreign Office take immediate action to bring about the return of the Orphanage to its Director.

Last Paper

6847

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes.)

See E8623 a action JB Sept. 19

(Action completed) (Index) Next/Paper

38538

A LONDRES

11 Septembre 194

E 8527

Che Reter,

Sans doute à la suite des interventions du Foreign Office auprès des autorités compétentes que Sir Oliver Harvey avait bien voulu promettre à M. Massigli d'effectuer par sa lettre nº E 4819/50/31 du 17 juin dernier, l'Orphelinat de Jesus adolescent à Nazareth qui était occupé par des troupes polonaises était en cours d'évacuation au début du mois d'août.

Sur les assurances que cet établissement serait donc évacué complètement, tout a été préparé pour sa réouverture en octobre; le personnel enseignant notamment doit arriver ces jours-ci.

Cependant des retards se sont produits dans la remise de l'Orphelinat à la disposition de son Supérieur et ils risquent d'en compromettre la réouverture.

Je vous serais donc très reconnaissant, en raison de l'imminence de la rentrée des classes, de bien vouloir intervenir à nouveau auprès des autorités compétentes pour que cet établissement, particulièrement important pour les oeuvres francaises, soit remis à son directeur.

P. Garran, Esq., Foreign Office.

Ami salment à veus. Peur lamps

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1947

E 3623

PALESTINE

French Stacking Establishment in Palestine. E8623/50/31. FROM I Higham 76395/3/47 Dated

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References

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(Action completed) Next/Paper 10028

(Minutes.)

Draks B Sept. 14

61837

Colonial Office, The Church House.

Great Smith Street,

My dear Beith.

Will you refer to your letter E. 6847/50/31 of 14th August about French educational establishments in Palestine. We have now heard from the Palestine Government that the Nazareth Orphanage of Jesus Adolescent will not be required for use by British troops and will be released when handing back formalities are completed.

I am afraid that Palestine are still not in a position to deal with the other questions we raised in our savingram No. 838 (a copy of which was enclosed in Lloyd's letter of the 25th of July to Harvey). They hope to be able to give us a full report very shortly.

Yours sincerely,

John Hohmm

(J.D. Higham)

J.G.S. BEITH, ESQ.

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No. E8623/50 31

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J.D. Higham Esq., Colonial Office, The Church House, Gt. Smith St, London, S.W.1.

from: (J.G.S. Beith) FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

Dear John,

LYSeptember 1947.

Thank you for your letter of September 15th, about the release of the French Orphanage of Jesus Adolescent, at Nazareth.

herewith a copy of a recent letter from
the French Embassy, pointing out that the
teaching staff fre arriving in Pelestine
any day now; and expressing the hope that he
formalities of handing over will not delay
the reopening of the school of delay
which is planted for
the reopening of the school of delay will
ensue now that the decision to release the
school has been taken.

yours suiceleff Scort. 19
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FOREIGN OFFICE. S.W.1

24th September, 1947.

(E 8623/50/31)

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 15th September about the release of the French Orphanage of Jesus Adolescent at Nazareth.

In this connexion I send you herewith a cope of a recent letter from the French Embassy, pointing out that the teaching staff for this Behool are arriving in Palestine any day now and expressing the hope that the formalities of handing over will not delay the reopening of the school which is planned for October. We very much hope that no further delay will ensue now that the decision to release the school has been taken.

(Squi) Rohn Beith

(J. G. S. Beith)

J. D. Higham Esq.,
Colonial Office,
The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
S.W.1.

Peterano

OFFICE, LONDON

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No. E8623 | 50 | 31

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Confidential:

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M. P. Francfork, 3, Carlton Gardens S.W.1.

from: (J.G.S. Beith)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

Dear John

24 September 1947

With reference to your letter to

Garran of September 11th, and our recent
telephone conversation, I write to confirm
the information I then gave you about
the Nazareth Orphanage of Jesus Adolescent.

from the Government of Palestine that
this teaching establishment will not be
required for use by British troops; and
will be released as soon as the
formalities of handing it back are
completed. We promise further information
about the other French Schools shortly.

I had not seen your letter of
September 11th when I spoke to you on
the telephone, but I am now communicating
#scontents
to the Colonial Office.

your sincerely, JB Sept. 19 (Squd) John Beith. 19

OFFICE,

FOREIGN OFFIC . S.W.1

24th September, 1947

8623/50/31

Deci Pierre,

With reference to your letter to Garran of lith September and our recent telephone conversation. I write to confirm the information I then gave you about the Mazar th Orohanage of Jesus Adolescent.

The Colonial Office have now heard from the Government of Palestine that this teaching establishment will definitely not be required for use by British troops and will be free as soon as the formalities of handing back are completed. We are promised further information shout the other French Schools shortly.

I had not seen your letter of 11th September when I spoke to you on the telephone, but I am now communicating its contents to the Colonial Office.

yours sincerely , (Squd) John Beich

(J. G. S. Boith)

Monsieur Pierre Francfort, .French Embassy, 3, Carlton Gardens, S.W.1.

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consulting the c.o., I found that if had misunders wood their original letter and this draft has been held up in order to Voblain further factionlars familitiens It is now clear that nine institutions were originally held, of which Three have been vacated and one will be shortly. Revised Schaft submitted. See fur ther Co. letter of Nov. 14 (J. E. CABLE) the original Co letter was Obsaire. I think we now have the free facts and a good case to put to the French Embassy. Sin C. Harney & sent. In P.P. R. Warright, French Emberry. 1/12. boly to c.o. (Mr. Higham) Wester Defis. Ser

Enler É ST

COLONIAL OFFICE.

CHURCH HOUSE.

E 10028 GREAT SMITH STREET, S.W.1.

23rd October 1947.

You wrote to me on the 17th of June about French educational establishments at present under requisition in Palestine. In a reply of 25th July I informed you that we had asked the High Commissioner for a full report on the situation. I am sorry to have been so long in writing to you again; this is largely due to the fact that the High Commissioner decided to undertake a complete survey of all religious and educational establishments in military occupation so that we should be in a position to deal with the suggestion conveyed in Francfort's letter to Garran of the 27th June that the Palestine Government did in effect discriminate against French establishments.

This survey discloses that of 42 religious and educational institutions in Palestine Still held by the military authorities only six are French. In the majority of cases the fact that French educational institutions have had to be occupied is solely due to their being admirably adapted to house large numbers of men and being situated in localities where there have been, up to the present, many British troops and no other suitable accommodation. It is of course true that certain of these buildings have been occupied by Poles. The plain fact is that we have been unable

Sir Oliver Harvey, KCMG., CB.

55

to move these Poles from Palestine to this country and that so long as they remain accommodation of some kind must be found for them. Notwithstanding this, of the three French buildings which were being used until recently to house Poles one was in fact released a few weeks ago, as reported in Higham's letter of 15th of September to Beith; the Ecole des Pères de Betharam at Nazareth was handed back on the 5th September; and the third, the Ratisbonne School, belonging to the Pères de Sion is due to be vacated by the military shortly. (The last named building has, as a matter of fact, never been under requisition, but has been leased since 1940 under a voluntary agreement with the owners).

As regards the few buildings still retained I understand that in one or two cases the owners have not made any representations for release and here the presumption is that they are not over—anxious to receive back these buildings as yet.

As further evidence that the charge of discrimination against French establishments is not well founded, I would add that the only French building occupied at Haifa was handed back to the Order of Carmel Saint Joseph on the 1st of September, although the very important school belonging to the International Carmelite Order of Haifa is still occupied by the Palestine Police, despite the serious dislocation to Arab education which this is causing and strong representations made on behalf of the Order by Members of Parliament and others who are deeply concerned at the effect of continued Government occupation of this property.

The French Ambassador may be assured that both the Palestine Government and the military authorities are only too anxious to cause the minimum disturbance to French teaching activities and that, as he will readily understand, it is only the difficult and uncertain conditions in Palestine which have made it impossible to proceed with release as quickly as we should wish.

Yours onicenty. 7.1.K. Llord

Colonial Office,
The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
London, S.W.1.

76395/3/47

10028 60 31 24 NOV 1047

14 November, 1947.

Dear Cable,

Please refer to Lloyd's letter of 23rd October to Harvey about requisitioned French educational establishments in Palestine.

You asked for a list of the names of the establishments mentioned in the letter under reference. I now enclose such a list, containing the names of the 6 houses still under requisition, one of which, the Ratisbonne School, is shortly to be vacated by the military, and also the names of these French schools which were at any time requisitioned, but which have been handed back to their owners.

The Orphanage of Jesus Adolescent, as you know from my letter No. 76395/3/47 of 18th September to Beith, is being handed back to its owners.

John Thigham

J.E. CABLE, ESQ.

eference: 61837

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58

List of French Religious and Educational Institutions at Present under Requisition in Palestine.

### Institution

#### Owners

## Nazareth

Nazareth Salesian Monastery.

Salesian Fathers.

### Jerusalem

Notre Dame de France

Rev. Father Pascal St. Jean, Superior of Notre Dame de France.

Hostel St. Pierre de Gallicante

Rev. Father Pascal St. Jean

Capucine Convent

Superior of the Capucine Mission through Attorney Rev. Father Pascal St. Jean

St. Paul's Hospice Damascus Gate

Rev. Father Yohannes
Sonnen, Representative of the Archbishop of
Cologne

\* Ratisbonne School

The Very Rev. Father Pierre de Conde, Superior of the Fathers of St. Pierre de Sion.

→ The last named school is not under requisition but has been occupied since 1940 under a hiring agreement between the Government and the Religious Authorities.

The following establishments, which were requisitioned have been handed back to their owners:-

- (1) Ecole de Peres de Betharam at Nazareth.
- (2) School of Carmel St. Joseph at Bat Galim.
- (3) Orphanage of Jesus Adolescent (my letter of 15th September to Beith).

Two of the establishments mentioned in Garran's letter of 24th January, namely that of the Peres Maristes, Bethanie and the Peres Blancs at Ain Karim are remarked on by Palestine as being "not known" and "not requisitioned" respectively (see the enclosure to Fitzgerald's letter of the 8th May).

L. L.L.

25 how 24

Ty dear Ambassador,

In my letter no. E 4819/50/31 of The 17th June I about the the British military authorities of French educational and religious institution in Palestine, I chart I had bolonial Office to take the maller up again with the fool. Palestine.

7. The good. of Palestine have now carefully investigated the position with Mousieur reference to the suggestion mode in 27 ransforls V letter of the 27th June to Garran That French institutions were réceiving less favourable tréatment lieur Dose of other nations. Investigation reveals that only six of the 42 religious and educational establishments still held by The Good. of Palestine are Trench. Thèse

- (i) The Salesian Monasley at Napareth (ii) The institution of Notre Dame de France
- (iii) The VHolel St. Pierre en Gallicante or generalem.
- The bapacine bonnent at Jennalen.
- (v) Dr. Paul's Hosfice, Damaseus Gale, Jetensahm.
- (vi) The Ratisbonne School at Jennsalem. The last of there is not requisitioned but has been occupied since 1940 on hire and by agreement with the peligions

Registry

No. E 10028/50/31

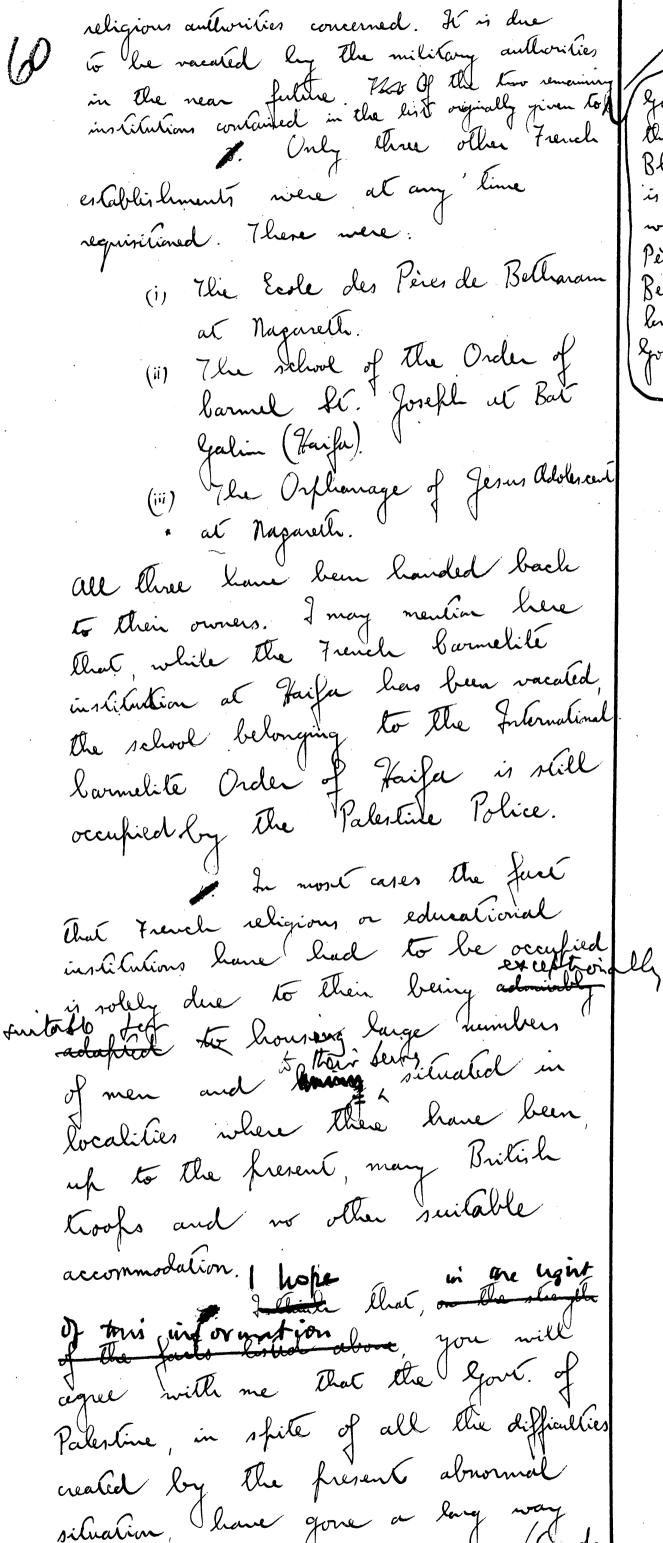
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Sin O. Harris

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Garan by Francon,
that of the Pires

Blunes at din Karim
is not requiritioned,
while that of the
Pires Marister at

Belliamy is not
lenous to the
Love. of Palestine.

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Cowards satisfying from suffering unfair discrimination, have received more favourable treatment than most. you may rest assured that both the Palestine Good. and the military authorities are anxious to cause the minimum disturbance to French leading activities and that, as you will readily affreciate, it is only the difficult and uncertain conditions in Palestine which have made it impossible to proceed with release as quickly as they would wish.

Mh Clri

Yours sincerely

(Sqd.) O.G. Sargent

Poreign Office,

No. E 10008/50/31

27th November, 1947.

62

My dear Ambassadar,

In my letter No. 2 4819/50/31 of the 17th June about the occupation by the British military authorities of certain French educational and religious institutions in Palestine, I mentioned that I had asked the Colonial Office the take the matter up again with the Government of Palestine.

The Government of Palestine have now carefully investigated the position with particular reference to the suggestion made in Moneieur Francfort's letter of the 27th June to Garran that French institutions were receiving less favourable treatment than those of other nations. Investigation reveals that only six of the forty-two religious and educational establishments still held by the Government of Palestine are French. These are:—

(1) The Salesian Monastery at Mesereth

1) The institution of Notre Dese de France at Jerusales

(111) The Hotel St. Pierre on Gallicante at Jerusalem.

(iv) The Capucine Convent at Jerusalem

(v) St. Paul's Mospice, Demascus Cate, Jerusalem (vi) The Ratisbonne School at Jerusalem.

The last of these is not requisitioned but has been compled since 1940 on hire and by agreement with the

occupied since 1940 on hire and by agreement with the religious authorities concerned. It is due to be vacated by the military authorities in the near future. Of the two remaining institutions contained in the list originally given to Carran by Monaieur Francfort, that of the Pères Blance at Ain Karim is not requisitioned.

while

**€** 

ص

His Excellency

Monsieur kend Massigli, K.B.E., French Embassy,

3, Veriton Gardens,

while that of the peres mariater at Bothany is not

only three other French establishments were at any time requisitioned. These were:

(1) The Ecole des Pères de Scharen et Santrett.

(ii) The school of the Order of Careal St. Joseph at But Galin (Baifs)

(111) The Orphanage of Jesus Adolescent at Masarath.

mil three have been handed back to their owners. I may mention here that, while the French Carmelite institution at Maifa has been vacated, the school belonging to the International Carmelite Order of Maifa is still occupied by the Palestine Folice.

In cost cases the fact that French religious or educational institutions have had to be occupied is toled due to their being exceptionally suitable for nousing large numbers of sec and to their being eituated in localities where there have been up to the present, sany british troops and no other suitable accommodation.

I hope that, in the light of tide information, you will agree with me that the deverment of relesting, in apite of all the difficulties created by the present abourmal situation, here gode a long way towards satisfying your Pourst. Prooch setablishments, so far from suffering unfair discrimination, have received core favourable trestment than most. Tou may Post assured that both the Palatine Government and the military authorities are anxious to cause the minimum disturbance to French tracking activities and that, as you will readily appreciate, it is only the difficult and uncertain conditions in Palestine which have mude it impossible to proceed with Felense as quickly as they a would wish.

Yours sincerely

(Fgd.) O.G. Sargent.

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A LONDRES

10028 50 31

1st December, 1947

Man; in holy - Scurtain DE That.

Je vous remercie de la lettre du 27 Novembre, Nº E 10028/50/31, par laquelle vous avez bien voulu m'informer de l'état de la question des Etablissements français en Palestine.

Je n'ai pas manqué de faire part de cette communication au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères qui appréciera certainement les efforts du Gouvernement de Palestine pour accélérer l'évacuation des locaux occupés par le Commandement britannique.

Vanily again, Marin le landen Ven IFTA, by asuran der hunk unsidentur.

L hasing

Sir Orme G. Sargent, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Sous Secrétaire d'Etat Permanent, Foreign Office.